

AUSTIN NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER

Natural Selections



Summer Camp 2015



301 Nature Center Drive Austin, TX 78746

Phone: (512) 974-3888 | Fax: (512) 974-3885

Parking: 2389 Stratford Drive

www.austintexas.gov/ansc

Summer Camps 2015

Dear Austin Families,

Welcome to the Austin Nature & Science Center. It is time for another exciting summer of camps. We can't wait to share our knowledge of the environment with young people and ignite their interest and curiosity in the natural world. As our campers grow, we imagine that these experiences will enhance their lives and help them be good stewards of the earth. We look forward to seeing familiar faces and making new friends this summer!

Sincerely,
ANSC Staff

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Online Summer Camp Registration

Registration opens: March 7, 2015 at 10:00 am

Prepare today!

Click on the "Online Registration" link at www.austintexas.gov/ansc
Follow the steps to verify your existing account or create a new account.

On registration day:

Log in to your account and search "Austin Nature Center" in the Location
dropdown menu. Scroll down to see Summer Camp offerings.

Camp Photos Now Available!

To view photos visit zenfolio.com/ansc



Special Note: Locations and activities require campers to be outside during the camp day. ANSC staff is trained to meet the challenges of facilitating dynamic outdoor activities during the summertime. Camps will take routine breaks inside or in the shade. Schedules are adjusted to limit exposure during the hottest part of the day. Please assist us in keeping your child safe by sending a large refillable water bottle and encouraging them to drink plenty of water throughout the day. ANSC staff request that campers apply sunscreen before arriving at camp. Throughout the day the staff will remind campers to refill water bottles and reapply sunscreen. Counselors encourage campers to advocate for themselves and urge participants to communicate their needs with the staff. Staff members are eager to answer your questions and assist you in creating a positive experience for your child.

Tadpole Camps - half day (Ages 4-6)

Young nature lovers engage in a week of hands-on discovery and nature study. Each session includes a different theme with fun, outdoor exploration, crafts, experiments, and games. Weekly planetarium and science programs offered each session. These camps do not take off-site field trips or go swimming. Upon registration for camp, a confirmation letter will be emailed to you. Before the first day of camp a parent letter with more detailed information will be sent by mail.

Age:	4-6 years old Participants must be potty trained to attend camp, no diapers or pull-ups please!	Ratio:	Maximum 8 campers/1 counselor
Fee:	\$120 for Austin residents \$130 for non-Austin residents	Field Trips:	Campers will NOT participate in field trips that require travel in a vehicle. Campers may walk to sites in Zilker Park. State Licensing paperwork required at registration.
Time:	Morning Sessions: Monday-Friday 8:00 AM-Noon Afternoon Sessions: Monday-Friday 1:00-5:00 PM Sessions are one week long.	Bring:	A snack and water bottle every day. A completed waiver the first day of <u>every camp</u> for which your child is registered.
Sign-in/out:	In camper's assigned classroom	Wear:	Play clothes and sneakers that can get dirty and damp.
Location:	Trailhouse Building Check in at the picnic tables in front of the Trailhouse Building on the first morning of each session to receive classroom assignment.	Swim:	No swimming, however, SPLASH DAY is on Friday: campers participate in supervised wading activities. Please send swim clothes, water shoes, sunscreen and towel on Friday.

TADPOLE CAMP WEEKLY THEMES

WILD ABOUT WILDLIFE

Get a behind the scenes view of ANSC resident wildlife while discovering interesting characteristics of mammals, insects, birds, and reptiles.

GREEN THUMB GANG

Get your hands dirty! Practice your gardening skills by planting seeds and observing how they grow. Learn about bugs that live in gardens and visit interesting plants at the Zilker Botanical Gardens.

EXPERIMENT EXTRAVAGANZA

Join us for a basic, hands-on introduction to science. Experiment with liquids, solids, and gases. Study objects in motion and more!

DINOSAUR DETECTIVES

^No Camp Friday, July 3rd. Prorated camp rate listed.

Grab your shovel and brush and discover what's buried in the Dino Pit exhibit. Uncover dinosaur fossils and other prehistoric critters while experimenting with volcanoes, rocks and minerals.

HAVE TO HAVE A HABITAT

Polar bears need cold weather and Texas alligator lizards need warm sun. Meet some of the ANSC resident critters and investigate their unique habitat needs. Discover differences in regions around the world and study interesting animals and plants that live there.

FUR, FEATHERS, AND FINS **NEW!**

How do feathers help birds fly? Why do fish have scales? Can fur help keep a rabbit safe? This week is all about animal parts. Think about the structure and purpose of bird, fish, and mammal bodies.

STAR STORIES

Crawl into the inflatable planetarium to search outer space for stars, planets, comets and moons. Hear stories about the constellations and legends from long ago.

WACKY WATER

Water is abundant and necessary! Hike to ANSC ponds for collection and observation of critters living in the water. Get your hands wet while experiencing unique properties of water. Check out how water moves through the world and learn tips for conservation.



TADPOLE CAMP	WEEKLY THEMES	AGES 4-5 Morning Sessions*	AGES 4-5 Afternoon Sessions*	AGES 5-6 Afternoon Session	COST
June 8-12	Wild About Wildlife	202820 4A	202820 5A	202820 6A	\$120/\$130
June 15-19	Green Thumb Gang	202820 4B	202820 5B	202820 6B	\$120/\$130
June 22-26	Experiment Extravaganza	202820 4C	202820 5C	202820 6C	\$120/\$130
June 29-July 2	Dinosaur Detectives	202820 4D	202820 5D	202820 6D	^\$96/\$104
July 6-10	Have to Have a Habitat	202820 4E	202820 5E	202820 6E	\$120/\$130
July 13-17	Experiment Extravaganza	202820 4F	202820 5F	202820 6F	\$120/\$130
July 20-24	Fur, Feathers, and Fins	202820 4G	202820 5G	202820 6G	\$120/\$130
July 27-31	Star Stories	202820 4H	202820 5H	202820 6H	\$120/\$130
August 3-7	Dinosaur Detectives	202820 4I	202820 5I	202820 6I	\$120/\$130
August 10-14	Wild About Wildlife	202820 4J	202820 5J	202820 6J	\$120/\$130
August 17-21	Wacky Water	202820 4K	202820 5K	202820 6K	\$120/\$130

*There are multiple sections or camp groups associated with this code. Each camp group has its own counselor, classroom, and schedule.

Discovery Camps (Ages 5-6)

Curiosity is rewarded at this camp! Each exciting theme includes hands-on discovery and nature study. Campers participate in outdoor exploration, crafts, experiments and games. Weekly planetarium and science programs offered each session. Upon registration for camp, a confirmation letter will be emailed to you. Before the first day of camp a parent letter with more detailed information will be sent by mail.

Age:	5-6 years old	Field Trips:	Tuesdays - Destinations will change from week to week. State law requires children under 8 years old to ride in a booster seat.
Fee:	\$176 for Austin residents \$180 for non-Austin residents	Bring:	A lunch, two snacks, and water bottle every day. A completed waiver the first day of <u>every camp</u> .
Time:	Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM One week sessions	Wear:	Play clothes and sneakers that can get dirty and damp Must wear water shoes (not flip-flops) when wading or swimming in natural areas.
Sign-in/out:	In camper's assigned classroom	Swim:	Wednesday-Friday at City of Austin pools. Campers must be able to swim at beginner level. More information on swimming times and locations available on the ANSC website in March.
Location:	ANSC Visitor Pavilion and Nature Labs Building Check in at the picnic tables in front of the Trailhouse Building on the first morning of each session to receive classroom assignment.		
Ratio:	Maximum 12 campers/1 counselor		

DISCOVERY CAMP WEEKLY THEMES

GROWING UP GREEN

Ever wonder how a garden grows? Find out how dirt, sunlight and water impact the plants in your flowerbed and on your plate. Get your fingers dirty and your thumb your greenest. We will be planting plants, and visiting the Zilker Botanical Garden.

DINO-MITE

Junior paleontologists, it's time to unearth the hidden treasures of the Dino Pit exhibit. Investigate fossils of prehistoric critters while experimenting with volcanoes, rocks and minerals.

WILD AND WOOLY

Discover what unique characteristics distinguish mammals, reptiles, birds, amphibians, and insects from one another. See and touch some of our favorite critter friends when they visit your classroom. Field trip to Crowe's Nest Farm.

OUT OF THIS WORLD

^No Camp Friday, July 3rd. Prorated camp rate listed.

Explore the universe in the inflatable planetarium. Learn how the constellations and stars have guided travelers and told stories throughout history.

MAD SCIENTISTS

Use science to gain knowledge of the world through observation and experimentation. Come experiment with liquids, solids and gases, study objects in motion, and more. Make goo and baking soda volcanoes then explore the physics of play at Mueller Park!

WATER WIGGLES

Splash in a puddle and dip your toes in the stream while learning about unique properties of water, its origin, and conservation tips. Collect critters that live in the water and use a video microscope to observe how they move through a wet world. Field trip to Pease Park.

HOMES, HIDE-A-WAYS & HABITATS

All creatures great and small have specific requirements for their home. Investigate diverse animal homes and bioregions around the world. Spy burrows, dens, hives, and nests while hiking on the Zilker Nature Preserve.

PLANET PROTECTORS

Protect the planet! Be a hero! Learn about the 3 Rs of conservation: reduce, recycle, reuse. Discover how taking a few simple steps can help reduce your carbon footprint on the planet. Visit to the Zilker Botanical Gardens.



DATES	THEME / CODE*	COST
June 8-12	Growing Up Green / 203820 21	\$176/\$180
June 15-19	Dino-mite / 203820 22	\$176/\$180
June 22-26	Wild and Wooly / 203820 23	\$176/\$180
June 29-July 2	Out of This World / 203820 24	^\$141/\$144
July 6-10	Mad Scientists / 203820 25	\$176/\$180
July 13-17	Water Wiggles/ 203820 26	\$176/\$180
July 20-24	Homes, Hideaways, & Habitats / 203820 27	\$176/\$180
July 27-31	Wild and Wooly / 203820 28	\$176/\$180
August 3-7	Planet Protectors / 203820 29	\$176/\$180
August 10-14	Dino-mite / 203820 30	\$176/\$180
August 17-21	Water Wiggles / 203820 31	\$176/\$180

Nature Camps (Ages 7-8)

Young nature enthusiasts explore the outdoor world. Each week features a different nature or science theme in addition to hiking, games, experiments, crafts, and other fun-filled activities. All sessions include planetarium and science presentations. Upon registration for camp, a confirmation letter will be emailed to you. Before the first day of camp a parent letter with more detailed information will be sent by mail.

Age:	7-8 years old	Field Trips:	Wednesdays - Destinations will change from week to week. State law requires children under 8 years old to ride in a booster seat.
Fee:	\$176 for Austin residents \$180 for non-Austin residents	Bring:	A lunch, two snacks and water bottle every day. A completed waiver the first day of <u>every camp</u> .
Time:	Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM One week sessions	Wear:	Play clothes and sneakers that can get dirty and damp. Must wear water shoes (not flip-flops) when wading or swimming in natural areas.
Sign-in/out:	In camper's assigned classroom	Swim:	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at City of Austin pools. Offsite field trips on Wednesdays. Campers must be able to swim at beginner level. More information on swimming times and locations available on the ANSC website in March.
Location:	Nature Labs Building Check in at the Visitor Pavilion breezeway on the first morning of each session to receive classroom assignment.		
Ratio:	Maximum 12 campers/1 counselor		

NATURE CAMP WEEKLY THEMES

IS IT REAL?

What is fact and what is fiction? What is science and what is myth? Use the scientific method to debunk and understand common myths, urban legends, and magic tricks. Learn the science behind facts we take for granted such as why the earth is not the center of the universe and why we wash our hands.

SPACE EXPLORERS

What is your favorite planet? What is the closest star to the earth? Learn the answers to questions about space, planets and stars. Observe a model of the night sky and constellations in the inflatable planetarium. Field trip to Inner Space Caverns.

AWESOME ANIMALS

Discover special adaptations of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and arthropods. Meet resident wildlife up-close. Investigate skulls, furs, feathers, and exoskeletons. Field trip to the Austin Zoo.



WET WONDERFUL WATER

^No Camp Friday, July 3rd. Prorated camp rate listed.

Discover different aquatic habitats including wetlands, ponds, oceans, and the Edwards Aquifer. A search for aquatic life in the ANSC creek gives way to exploration of a pond habitat and a visit to *Splash!* exhibit. Field trip to the Meadows Center in San Marcos.

DIGGING UP DINOSAURS

Dig for casts of dinosaur fossils in the Dino Pit exhibit, meet a modern day dinosaur, and make a fossil. Field trip to the Texas Natural Science Center's paleontology hall.

NATURE BY DESIGN

Experience the beauty of Central Texas with hikes through the Zilker Preserve and visits to an ephemeral pond. Learn how nature is revealed through symmetry, texture, and color. Environmental art comes alive as you create it using nature's patterns as inspiration. Field trip to the Zilker Botanical Garden.

EARTH KEEPERS

Eco-minded campers learn to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Find new uses for all kinds of old things! Make a robot out of junk, find out about composting, and even learn about animals that recycle. Field trip to the Natural Gardener.

DATES	THEME / CODE*	COST
June 8-12	Is It Real? / 203820 N1	\$176/\$180
June 15-19	Space Explorers / 203820 N2	\$176/\$180
June 22-26	Awesome Animals / 203820 N3	\$176/\$180
June 29-July 2	Wet Wonderful Water / 203820 N4	^\$141/\$144
July 6-10	Digging Up Dinosaurs / 203820 N5	\$176/\$180
July 13-17	Nature By Design / 203820 N6	\$176/\$180
July 20-24	Digging Up Dinosaurs / 203820 N7	\$176/\$180
July 27-31	Awesome Animals / 203820 N8	\$176/\$180
August 3-7	Space Explorers / 203820 N9	\$176/\$180
August 10-14	Earth Keepers / 203820 NN	\$176/\$180
August 17-21	Wet Wonderful Water / 203820 NT	\$176/\$180

*There are multiple sections or camp groups associated with this code. Each camp group has its own counselor, classroom, and schedule.

Adventure Camps (Ages 9-10)

Adventure camp is just what it sounds like - a camp full of exciting outdoor adventures! Activities may include rock climbing, canoeing, outdoor skills, mountain biking, and caving. Upon registration for camp, a confirmation letter will be emailed to you. Before the first day of camp a parent letter with more detailed information will be sent by mail.

Age:	9-10 years old	Bring:	A lunch, two snacks, and water bottle every day.
Fee:	\$186/week for Austin residents \$200/week for non-Austin residents Additional \$24 for programs that include campout		A completed waiver the first day of <u>every camp</u> for which your child is registered.
Time:	Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM One and two week sessions	Wear:	Play clothes and sneakers that can get dirty and damp. Must wear water shoes (not flip-flops) when wading or swimming in natural areas.
Sign-in/out:	Rock Garden Picnic Tables in Zilker Park	Swim:	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday at City of Austin pools. Thursday's swim location varies.
Location:	Sheffield Education Center/Splash Exhibit		Campers must be able to swim at beginner level.
Ratio:	Maximum 12 campers/1 counselor		More information on swimming times and locations available on the ANSC website in March.
Field Trips:	Varies based on themes, destinations may change. Some sessions include an overnight campout.		

ADVENTURE CAMP WEEKLY THEMES

WORLD OF WILDLIFE

Get to know ANSC resident wildlife and what's going on behind the scenes. Check out the differences between wild and domestic animals and look for signs of animals in nature. Field trips to the Austin Zoo and Exotic Resort Zoo.

ADVENTURES AROUND AUSTIN

Visit some hidden gems in and around Austin. See a wild cave and explore natural phenomena around town; from bats to Barton Springs this is going to be a great week! Field trip to Austin Zoo.

OUTDOOR EXPLORERS

^No Camp Friday, July 3rd. Prorated camp rate listed.

2 WEEK CAMP

Outdoor exploration is the name of the game during this two week whirlwind of activities. Campers - gear up for trail biking and archery. Practice skills in preparation for an overnight campout at McKinney Falls State Park (July 1-2 or August 6-7). Campers must be able to ride a bike with their camp group for three miles without adult assistance.

WATER WORKS

Discover unique characteristics of water while collecting aquatic critters and conducting simple tests of water quality. Investigate aquatic life using a microscope to identify organisms. Campers go canoeing and visit the Meadows Center in San Marcos.

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Experience how archeologists and paleontologists study the present to learn about the past. Learn ancient hunting techniques like archery, and animal tracking. Make your own arrowhead and travel back in time in a canoe on Lady Bird Lake.

AUSTIN FAVORITES

Cool off in Barton Springs pool, bike Ladybird Lake trail, tunnel through a wild cave and hike the greenbelt along Barton Creek. Campers must be able to ride a bike with their camp group for three miles without adult assistance. Join us for a week of exploring some favorite outdoor spots in Austin. Field trip to Amy's Ice Cream.



DATES	THEME / CODE*	COST
June 8-12	World of Wildlife / 203820 A1	\$186/\$200
June 15-19	Adventures Around Austin / 203820 A2	\$186/\$200
June 22-July 2	Outdoor Explorers / 203820 A3	^\$359/\$384
July 6-10	Water Works / 203820 A4	\$186/\$200
July 13-17	Adventures Around Austin / 203820 A5	\$186/\$200
July 20-24	Blast from the Past / 203820 A6	\$186/\$200
July 27-Aug. 7	Outdoor Explorers / 203820 A7	\$396/\$424
August 10-14	World of Wildlife / 203820 A8	\$186/\$200
August 17-21	Austin Favorites / 203820 A9	\$186/\$200

Explorer Camps (Ages 11-12)

These camps are perfect for older campers who are excited about the outdoors and science! Each session explores a new topic and focuses on learning new skills. Upon registration for camp, a confirmation letter will be emailed to you. Before the first day of camp a parent letter with more detailed information will be sent by mail.

Age:	11-12 years old	Bring:	A lunch, two snacks and water bottle every day.
Fee:	\$200/week for Austin residents \$225/week for non-Austin residents		A completed waiver the first day of <u>every camp</u> for which your child is registered.
	Additional \$24 for programs that include campout	Wear:	Play clothes and sneakers that can get dirty and damp.
Time:	Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM		Must wear water shoes (not flip-flops) when wading or swimming in natural areas.
	One and two week sessions	Swim:	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday at City of Austin pools. Thursday's swim location varies.
Sign-in/out:	Rock Garden Picnic Tables in Zilker Park		Campers must be able to swim at beginner level.
Location:	Sheffield Education Center/Splash Exhibit		More information on swimming times and locations available on the ANSC website in March.
Ratio:	Maximum 12 campers/1 counselor		
Field Trips:	Varies based on themes, destinations may change.		
	Some sessions include an overnight campout.		

EXPLORER CAMP WEEKLY THEMES

HABITATS AND ECOSYSTEMS **NEW!**

You may know Austin like the back of your hand - but how about the back of your paw? Spend the week visiting habitats for bats, macroinvertebrates, birds, and more. Field trips to the Austin Zoo and the San Marcos River.

CLIFFHANGER

This camp is more than rock climbing! Learn about Central Texas geology as you explore rocks like never before. We'll climb on the Barton Creek greenbelt, search for fossils in Shoal Creek and go spelunking. Field trips to Pease Park and Whirlpool cave.

EXPLORE AUSTIN **NEW!**

2 WEEK CAMP ^No Camp Friday, July 3rd. Prorated camp rate listed. Delve into some of the places and ideas that make Austin unique and go on an overnight campout at McKinney Falls State Park (June 25-26 or July 30-31). From our aquifers to our food system, there is a lot of Austin to cover. Crawl through an undeveloped cave and discover Ladybird Lake by kayak and bike. Campers must be able to ride a bike with their camp group for three miles without adult assistance.

NATURE EXPEDITIONS **NEW!**

Go on a new expedition in Central Texas each day. Experience the beauty of the greenbelt and other natural attractions. Try your hand at archery, climb rocks along Barton Creek, and think about how water travels underground as you go caving.

PAST AND PRESENT **NEW!**

Enjoy the conveniences of modern tools as you imagine how different it must have been to live off of the land. Use an atlatl and a bow to shoot at targets, and read the history in the limestone as you rappel down a wall. Field trip to McKinney Roughs Nature Center.

WATER WAYS

Explore the diverse bodies of water in Central Texas from spring fed streams to dammed rivers. How do environmental conditions affect each aquatic ecosystem? See for yourself as you paddle a kayak down Lady Bird Lake and snorkel in the San Marcos River.

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

Have you ever wanted to capture the beauty of a butterfly or the excitement of a squirrel chase? Campers bring a digital camera or are provided with disposable cameras to practice taking pictures of natural wonders big and small. Each photographer chooses two photos to be displayed at the Sheffield Education Center.



DATES	THEME / CODE	COST
June 8-12	Habitats and Ecosystems / 203820 41	\$200/\$225
June 15-19	Cliffhanger / 203820 42	\$200/\$225
June 22-July 2	Explore Austin / 203820 43	^\$384/\$429
July 6-10	Nature Expeditions / 203820 44	\$200/\$225
July 13-17	Past and Present / 203820 45	\$200/\$225
July 20-24	Water Ways / 203820 46	\$200/\$225
July 27-Aug. 7	Explore Austin / 203820 47	\$424/\$474
August 10-14	Nature Photography / 203820 48	\$200/\$225

Specialty Camps (Ages 9-13)

Delve a little deeper into outdoor nature adventures during extra special camps! Upon registration for camp, a confirmation letter will be emailed to you. Before the first day of camp a parent letter with more detailed information will be sent by mail. Specialty Camps meet TUESDAY - FRIDAY from 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM.

Age:	9-13 years old	Bring:	A lunch, two snacks and water bottle every day.
Fee:	\$200/week for Austin residents \$225/week for non-Austin residents Additional \$24 for programs that include campout	Wear:	A completed waiver the first day of <u>every camp</u> for which your child is registered.
Time:	Tuesday-Friday*, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM One week sessions	Swim:	Play clothes and sneakers that can get dirty and damp. Must wear water shoes (not flip-flops) when wading or swimming in natural areas.
Sign-in/out:	Rock Garden Picnic Tables in Zilker Park		Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday at City of Austin pools. Thursday's swim location varies. Campers must be able to swim at beginner level. More information on swimming times and locations available on the ANSC website in March.
Location:	Sheffield Education Center/Splash Exhibit		
Ratio:	Maximum 12 campers/1 counselor		
Field Trips:	Varies based on themes, destinations may change. Some sessions include an overnight campout.		

SPECIALTY CAMP WEEKLY THEMES

ADVENTURE SPORTS

Experience a different adventure each day! Kayak on Lady Bird Lake, go rock climbing, crawl through a cave, and bike on trails. Campers must be able to ride a bike with their camp group for three miles without adult assistance. Field trip to Whirlpool Cave.

AWESOME ASTRONOMY 🔥

Leave behind the world you know to travel among the stars. From the inflatable planetarium to solar system modeling, this week will send you into orbit! Campout at Pedernales Falls State Park.

CLIMB TIME: Above & Below

Let us turn your world from horizontal to vertical. This camp is an introduction to climbing and caving. See Austin from rock walls and wild caves. We will explore two local caving systems. Climbing and caving equipment is provided.

ANIMAL LOVERS

*Camp meets Monday-Thursday this week due to July 4th holiday. Do you love animals and want to get to know the ANSC resident wildlife up close? Explore how animals are cared for in captivity and visit with wildlife experts. Field trip to Exotic Resort Zoo.

TINKER SAILOR SOLDIER SPY **NEW!**

Every tried to make a boat out of recycled materials? Do you enjoy archery? Join us for this mashup of our favorite activities in this unique camp. Field trip to Reimer's Ranch.

PALEO EXPLORERS 🔥

Put on your paleontologist hat and travel with us to uncover evidence of life long ago. Let's hunt at prime fossil spots around Austin and head to Bamberger Ranch for an overnight campout and to explore dinosaur tracks in the Blanco River.



ADVANCED CAVING 🔥

If you have previously ventured into a cave, join us! Hit Austin's premier wild caves and descend into a pit cave. Camp out at Ink's Lake and head to Longhorn Caverns for a special wild cave tour.

CAVES & LIFE UNDERGROUND

Your introduction to the wonder of caving! Step into another world by exploring cave formations from the surface, taking a walking tour underground, and then graduating to a crawl through local caves. All caving equipment is provided. Field trip to Natural Bridge Caverns.

TRAIL BIKING

Explore trails in McKinney Falls State Park and Reimer's Ranch from the seat of a bike. Bikes and helmets are provided or campers may bring their own. Campers must be able to ride a bike with their camp group for three miles without adult assistance.

WASTE WARRIORS 🔥

Are you passionate about recycling and conservation? Become a waste warrior. Help clean up Lady Bird Lake while kayaking and examine art made from recycled materials. Campout at Emma Long Park.

YOUTH CLIMBING

Find yourself perched on limestone cliffs high above while exploring climbing spots in the Barton Creek Greenbelt. Learn basic techniques and practice your skills at Reimer's Ranch. All equipment provided.

DATES	THEME / CODE	AGE	COST
June 8-12	Adventure Sports / 203820 SA	11-13	\$200/\$225
June 15-19	Awesome Astronomy / 203820 SB	9-11	\$224/\$249
June 22-26	Climb Time Above and Below / 203820 SC	11-13	\$200/\$225
*June 29-July 2	Animal Lovers / 203820 SD	9-11	\$200/\$225
July 6-10	Tinker Sailor Soldier Spy / 203820 SE	11-13	\$200/\$225
July 13-17	Paleo Explorers / 203820 SF	11-13	\$224/\$249
July 20-24	Advanced Caving / 203820 SG	11-13	\$224/\$249
July 27-31	Caves & Life Underground / 203820 SH	9-11	\$200/\$225
August 3-7	Trail Biking / 203820 SI	11-13	\$200/\$225
August 10-14	Waste Warriors / 203820 SJ	11-13	\$224/\$249
August 17-21	Youth Climbing / 203820 SK	11-13	\$200/\$225

Counselor in Training (Ages 13-17)

The Counselor in Training program (CIT) is an opportunity for teens to gain valuable leadership skills and have fun this summer. CIT camp prepares teens to assist adult camp counselors in leading activities. The two day training equips CITs with the skills to become outstanding leaders by covering such topics as safety, child development, games, and songs. This popular program helps teenagers develop a sense of responsibility while increasing self-confidence. CITs will make new friends and see old camp pals. Participants must enjoy working with younger children and be willing to accept responsibility and leadership roles. Placement is determined by the Camp Director and the CIT Coordinator. Upon registration for camp, a confirmation letter will be emailed to you. Before the first day of camp a parent letter with more detailed information will be sent by mail.

Age:	13-17 years old	Daily Camp Sign-in/out:	At assigned camp.
Fee:	\$76/week for Austin residents \$91/week for non-Austin residents	Field Trips:	Varies based on camp assignment. May include an overnight campout at a nearby park.
	Fees include 2 days of training and 1-2 weeks of supervised volunteer work.	Bring:	A lunch, two snacks and water bottle every day . A completed waiver the first day of <u>every camp</u> for which your child is registered.
Training:	June 11 & 12 for sessions June 15- July 17 July 16 & 17 for sessions July 20- August 21	Wear:	Appropriate clothes and sneakers that can get dirty and damp.
Time:	Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM One and two week sessions.	Swim:	Varies based on camp assignment.
Training Sign-in/out:	ANSC exit at Barton Springs Road under Mopac Bridge 301 Nature Center Drive, Austin, TX 78746	Prerequisites:	<u>MUST</u> attend training prior to volunteer session. Must enjoy the outdoors and serving as a role model for younger children.

DATES	SESSION / CODE	COST
June 15-19	CIT1 / 204820 1A	\$76/\$91
June 22-July 2	CIT2 / 204820 1B	^\$137/\$164
July 6-17	CIT3 / 204820 1C	\$152/\$182
July 20-31	CIT4 / 204820 1D	\$152/\$182
August 3-14	CIT5 / 204820 1E	\$152/\$182
August 17-21	CIT6 / 204820 1F	\$76/\$91



Before & After Camp Care

Camp staff members supervise children needing to arrive early or stay late and provide them with board games, puzzles, and cards. Campers may arrive after 7:15 AM and MUST be picked up by 6:00 PM.

Age:	4-17 years old
Fee:	\$40/week for Austin residents \$45/week for non-Austin residents
Time:	Morning Sessions: Monday-Friday 7:15 AM Afternoon Sessions: Monday-Friday 5:15-6:00 PM
Sign-in/Sign-out:	Cottonwood Room located in the ANSC Nature Labs Building
SPECIAL NOTE: Adventure, Explorer, and Specialty campers in the Before/After Care will be at the Zilker Park Rock Garden picnic tables until 5:15 PM, then they will be transported to the ANSC Cottonwood Room to arrive at 5:30 PM. These children will be in transit between 5:15 - 5:30 PM. Please wait for them at ANSC.	

DATES	CODES	COST
June 8-12	207820 1A	\$40/\$45
June 15-19	207820 1B	\$40/\$45
June 22-26	207820 1C	\$40/\$45
June 29-July 2	207820 1D	^\$32/\$36
July 6-10	207820 1E	\$40/\$45
July 13-17	207820 1F	\$40/\$45
July 20-24	207820 1G	\$40/\$45
July 27-31	207820 1H	\$40/\$45
August 3-7	207820 1I	\$40/\$45
August 10-14	207820 1J	\$40/\$45
August 17-21	207820 1K	\$40/\$45

^No Camp Friday, July 3rd. Prorated camp rate listed.

Frequently Asked Questions

When does registration begin?

Beginning March 7, 2015 at 10am, the Austin Nature & Science Center (ANSC) will accept online registration for Summer Camp programs. Fax-in, mail-in and walk-in registrations will also be accepted at ANSC concurrently. Online registration is available 24 hours per day; walk-in, fax-in and mail- **in registration is available during ANSC's regular business hours.**

Online registration is strongly encouraged. Customers may review online results immediately as online registration is completed in real time. Walk-in, fax-in and mail-in registration will only be completed as they are entered into the system by staff which will take longer.

How do I access online registration?

Directly access the Austin Parks and Recreation registration website at www.austintexas.gov/parksregister, or visit ANSC's website and use the "online registration" link. For information on how to register online and set up an account please go to www.austintexas.gov/page/online-registration. If you need additional assistance you may also call ANSC front desk staff at 512-974-3888.

Is online registration secure?

To keep your personal information safe, you will create or update your user account, which is only accessible by you. **If you don't know your password or username, you can request a new one.** Payments are completed through a **credit card processing vendor to protect customers' privacy** and security. Neither the Austin Parks and Recreation Department, nor the software vendor retains credit card information.

How to I register by phone or in person at ANSC?

Visit or call the ANSC front desk to request a registration form, and then fax, mail, or submit the form in person. ANSC does not accept registration by email due to safety concerns. The completed registration form will be entered into the system at the earliest convenience of front desk staff. Therefore, you will not know your registration status until you receive either a confirmation email or an email placing you on a waiting list. No spaces will be held for fax-in, mail-in or walk-in registration submissions. Please check your email, including your spam folder. If you have not received an email, staff has yet to input your registration form.

Are scholarships available?

For financial aid scholarship information, go to www.austintexas.gov/pardfindaid. Please remember that you must be preapproved, which takes some time, in order to use your financial aid with registration. Scholarships are not

What happens if the camp is full?

If a camp is full, a spot on the waiting list will be offered. There is no fee to be on the waiting list. When ANSC receives a cancellation, the available space will be offered to the first person on the waiting list. If you are offered a space, we will notify you of the deadline to secure the space with payment. If you decline or let the deadline expire without making payment, we will offer the space to the next person on the waiting list.

If I make an ADA accommodation request, do I have to wait to speak with staff before registering online?

No. Please participate in registration as usual. Contact the registration office by phone at 512-974-3888 or email at anscprograms@austintexas.gov to inform us that you are making an accommodation request. Parks staff will contact you within seven days.

Can I arrange for siblings or friends to be in the same camp?

No. Many camps have multiple sections. Even if your child and their friend register for a camp with the same theme and registration code, they may be placed in separate groups. Placement of siblings or friends in the same camp is not guaranteed.

How do I know if I am an Austin resident or a non-Austin resident?

Front desk staff can provide a list of zip codes used to determine residency for the purposes of Parks and Recreation Department program registration.

How will I know that I am registered?

You will be emailed a confirmation (payment receipt) or notification that you are on a waitlist. Please check your email messages, including your spam folder. If you do not have an email address, your confirmation or waitlist notification will be mailed to you.

What should my child bring to camp?

To make sure your child has everything they need for camp please review the confirmation packet which you will receive via email. This includes a parent letter with **information about what to bring and ANSC's medical release form.** The medical release form must be submitted on the first day of camp at sign-in (please do not mail it in beforehand). More information is available at www.austintexas.gov/ansc.

Program Registration Policies

Cancellation and Refunds:

Program attendance is the responsibility of the participant. Failure to attend does not entitle a participant to a transfer, make-up, prorated, or refund. We will issue a full refund, minus a \$35 non-refundable deposit, upon receipt of a written cancellation request received at least seven days before the start of the camp. You may email your cancellation request to anscprograms@austintexas.gov. If the program fee is \$35 or less, half of the fee will be refunded. No refunds are issued for registrations that are cancelled without seven days advance notice in writing to ANSC.

Refunds are issued to the charging credit card. If payment was made by check, the City of Austin will issue and mail a refund check within 4 - 6 weeks. To avoid waiting for a refund, consider paying by credit card or by issuing separate checks for each camp. All checks sent to ANSC must be processed. There is a \$25 cash fee on all returned checks.

Age Requirement:

Camps are based by age. Your child must be the appropriate age on or before the first day of camp. Curriculum is designed for specific age groups and developmental stages.

Minimum Registration:

ANSC reserves the right to cancel any camp that does not meet the minimum enrollment. If this occurs you will be notified at least 10 days prior to the summer program and a full refund will be issued (see refund procedure).

Transfers:

Due to the number of participants in our summer programs, ANSC is unable to transfer participants to other camp sessions. To change camp sessions, please follow the cancellation and registration procedures.

Video and Image Policy:

ANSC regularly takes photos of participants in our camps. Photos are used to depict programs at ANSC and may appear in brochures, fliers, and other media. Please see the image release waiver section of the registration form.

Tadpole Camp Additional Forms:

Tadpole Camp requires additional forms for registration. Please bring the completed forms with you the first day of camp. These forms are available online at www.austintexas.gov/ansc.

Overview of Registration Process

Please visit www.austintexas.gov/page/online-registration for more details.

1. First, determine if you already have a customer household account created by staff. If you have participated in Parks and Recreation programs before, you may already have an account. If the system associates a current account with your contact information, you will be prompted to create a new password and username.
2. Go to the Austin Parks and Recreation online registration website: www.austintexas.gov/parksregister.
3. Browse the camp listings.
4. Register for your desired camp(s). We ask that you register for a maximum of 3 summer camps per child.
5. Pay in full with a credit card.
6. Your receipt will be sent to the email address you provided on your account information along with a summer camp packet. Please check your spam folder.
7. Should you need to change or cancel your camp, contact ANSC's registration office to make the request. Please review the program registration policies regarding refunds, transfers, and other important registration and participation information.



Parking and Main Entrance:
2389 Stratford Drive,
Austin, TX

Mailing Address:
301 Nature Center Drive,
Austin, TX 78746

Phone: 512-974-3888
Fax: 512-974-3885

Mayor and City Council Members
Mayor Steve Adler
Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo
Council Member Ora Houston
Council Member Delia Garza
Council Member Sabino "Pio" Renteria
Council Member Gregorio "Greg" Casar
Council Member Ann Kitchen
Council Member Don Zimmerman
Council Member Leslie Pool
Council Member Ellen Troxclair
Council Member Sheri Gallo
Parks and Recreation Department
Sara L. Hensley, CPRP, Director
Kimberly McNeeley, CPRP, Assistant Director
Cora D. Wright, Assistant Director

City Managers Office
Marc Ott, City Manager
Rey Arellano, Assistant City Manager
Sue Edwards, Assistant City Manager
Robert Goode, Assistant City Manager
Bert Lumbreras, Assistant City Manager
Anthony Snipes, Assistant City Manager

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Jeff Francell, Vice Chair
William Abell, Board Member
Michael Casias, Board Member
Dale Clover, Board Member
Lynn Osgood, Board Member
Susan Roth, Board Member

Parks and Recreation Department Mission Statement

The purpose of the Austin Parks and Recreation Department is to provide, protect, and preserve a park system that promotes quality recreational, cultural and outdoor experiences for the Austin Community.

Children's programs supervised by Parks and Recreation Department and requiring enrollment/registration in order to participate are not licensed by the state, but follow local standards of care as adopted by the City of Austin Ordinance No. 020131-65. A copy of the ordinance is available and posted at each site.

Nature's Way Preschool is licensed by the State of Texas as a child care facility.

Persons with Disabilities - The City of Austin is committed to complying with the Americans with Disability Act. Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to participate in the Austin Nature & Science Center programs. You may request special accommodations to facilitate participation and inclusion in these programs. Reasonable modifications and equal access will be provided upon request. Call (512) 974-3888.

